514 Rec'd PCT/PTO

PATENT APPLICATION

IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

In re the Application of:

Nilo FAGIOLINI et al.

International Appln. No.: PCT/EP98/02828

Filed: November 15th, 1999

Attorney Dkt. No.: 32232-152197

PULVERULENT REACTIVE COMPOSITION AND PROCESS FOR THE For:

PURIFICATION OF A GAS

PRELIMINARY AMENDMENT

Assistant Commissioner for Patents

Washington, D.C. 20231

Sir:

Prior to initial examination of the application, please amend the above-identified application as follows:

IN THE CLAIMS:

Please amend claims 1-10 as follows:

(Amended) Solid pulverulent reactive composition for the purification of a gas, comprising sodium bicarbonate and a caking inhibitor for sodium bicarbonate[, characterized in that the inhibitor comprises] and being substantially devoid of silica, said inhibitor comprising lignite coke and/or a magnesium compound comprising magnesium (hydr)oxide.

(Amended) The [C]composition according to Claim 1, [characterized in that it is 2.

substantially devoid of silical wherein said magnesium compound comprises basic magnesium

Inocarbonalc

Timely correctly extered claim 2 new matter